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# The Ansgar Lutheran

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## WELCOME TO THE ASSEMBLY

By Carl E. Lund-Quist

This is being written on the eve of the Assembly from the offices given to the Lutheran World Federation by Lutheran Brotherhood—a multimillion dollar insurance company. The new building is an epitome of modernity in construction with all the latest conveniences and gadgets. One feels curiously at home in these new surroundings and yet a strange loneliness is felt, after having been in Geneva for so long.

An American returning home after many years of living abroad, together with travels to every continent during that time, senses immediately the new atmosphere in this so-called new world. The most obvious paradox is the apparently high economic standard and material well-being on the one hand and the wide interest in religion and the growing interest in the churches on the other hand. Another paradox is that while the church has never "had it so good" and has reached new high percentages of membership, yet the widespread juvenile delinquency, the climbing crime statistics and fantastic divorce rates are characteristic of American life. The religious milieu in the U. S. A. and Canada today is one which is devoid of any organized or public antagonism to the church. Certainly there are large numbers of skeptics, agnostics and atheists but their efforts seem to have been neutralized. Sometimes the attempts at religiosity take on almost phenomenal form. The idea of dialing a certain telephone number to listen to a certain kind of prayer, the use of chimes on bank buildings, department stores and other public buildings for playing Christian hymns—but a few of the more apparent ones. There are many minds within the church which have observed this

development and are pointing out with great clarity the inherent dangers in such superficial elements in religion. The pastors are the first to admit that the increased attendance and membership needs to be carefully examined.

Our own Lutheran churches are part of this general pattern. A few comments may be in order to point up the particular situation facing these churches. The fact that the overwhelming number of congregations use only the English language indicates a trend that has been going on for decades. The early churches of the East Coast have, of course, been Americanized long ago. However, the European immigrants of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth have, as a result of two world wars, given up their foreign languages. The process of becoming genuinely indigenous groups is, therefore, almost complete.

The motion picture, "Martin Luther" and its wide popular appeal in cinemas and now on television is one factor of the public's growing acquaintance with the existence and character of Lutheranism. The use of news, publications and other techniques has also placed our churches on the map of America. Much more important, however, is the fact that our theological scholars are beginning to make significant contribution not only within our churches but in the total theological picture. It is in this latter realm that the greatest future potential of American Lutheranism lies.

In connection with this Assembly American Lutherans will, to a greater extent than ever before, be able to meet and become acquainted with representatives of churches from all over the world and to understand their life and work. There are two reasons

The Executive Director of the Lutheran World Federation, Dr. Lund-Quist discusses some of the questions that will be before the Assembly at Minneapolis August 15-25.

for this growing concern of American Lutherans: (1) America has had to accept political responsibility in world affairs. Thus, parallel to this, our churches have accepted new international responsibilities thrust upon them; (2) The great outpouring of gifts by Lutheran congregations since 1939 has included a vast program of education on the history, traditions and problems of other churches. The response to Lutheran World Action, the fund-raising programs of the National Lutheran Council, and the channeling of these resources through the L.W.F. have been a help and a blessing but also an indication that churches here in the U. S. A. are widely aware of their Christian responsibility to the churches of every continent.

Non-Americans will find pastors and congregations eager to have people from abroad preach in their pulpits and describe their churches. There is an open-hearted hospitality and genuine warmth and freshness that may seem to non-Americans a little superficial and over-done. Visitors from outside the U. S. will find a divided Lutheranism in America. Desperate efforts are being made to unite our churches and there have been some solid achievements. The question, however, is still how three large blocks of Lutherans can reach unity. We pray that in our discussions on the theme some help can be given in this moment of Lutheran church history to give some guide lines.

Frankly, L.W.F. is taking a risk in discussing the question of unity. The Americans were rather wary about bringing the Assembly to the U. S. A. to discuss the subject that has been such a thorny question for them. The first two assemblies were rather calm—some say too calm. This could be different. Most American Lutherans

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# News and Notes

## 75th Anniversary

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, celebrated its 75th anniversary July 14. The congregation has published a beautiful anniversary booklet, which gives an interesting historic account of the development of the congregation. This church has had a real struggle. It had to go on home mission status in 1946. Since that time the synod has assisted its development. Parish workers have also been supplied to help the pastors. Jan. 15, 1957, the church again became self-supporting in every respect. It has a baptized membership of 435. The Sunday School and staff number about 185. It has a debt of \$18,000. The Rev. James W. Olsen is pastor of the church.

## Lutheran Churches of the World

If you want to know something about the Lutheran Churches which will be represented at the Minneapolis Assembly, a new book, **Lutheran Church of the World**, is a must. It has seven main chapters: Central Europe, by Bishop Hanns Lilje; Scandinavia, by Dean Ragnar Askmark; Europe's Minority Churches, by Pastor Laszlo Terray; Latin America, by Dr. Stewart Herman; North America, by Dr. E. Theodore Bachmann; Asia, by Bishop Rajah B. Manikam; Africa, by Dr. Fridtjov Berkeli. A thorough study of this book will help the reader to understand the background and viewpoints expressed by delegates and visitors at Minneapolis.

And the folks not able to attend the Assembly will find the book perhaps more valuable. They will get written reports, and they will understand the reports better if they know the churches the men are representing.

The book has 333 pages. It is published by Augsburg Publishing House at \$3.50. Lutheran Publishing House has it in stock. Just order it.

**Spencer, Iowa.** Bethany Lutheran Church honored Pastor and Mrs. John M. Jensen with "open house" held in the church parlors Sunday July 21, because of their 35th wedding anniversary and their 20 years of ministry in Spencer. A fine program was rendered and a purse was presented to the couple.

**Linwood, California** - Allan D. Hansen and Douglas J. Toepel, Pastors. On July 22 St. Paul's Lutheran had its annual Laymen's Sunday. Four men spoke, each for seven minutes at the service and two others assisted in the order of service. Since the church has three morning worship services, this meant that twelve men spoke and six men assisted. This has been a Sunday to which the congregation has learned to look forward in great anticipation.

**Church Workers' Institute at Dana College.** There were a total of 120 in attendance, which included a staff of 12. Out of this number there were 103 representing the ALC and 15 our synod in addition to one from the ELC and one from the ULC. This year the parish workers of the ALC had their conference in connection with the institute at Dana College. Next year it will be in connection with the Illinois institute. There were some twenty parish workers which included three from our synod. They shared in the courses of the institute in addition to some sessions of their own. We are happy that we can continue to cooperate with the Board of Parish Education of the ALC in the Church Workers' Institutes of next summer. Our plan is to begin co-operating in other areas as well as in zone or local institutes. The date for the 1958 institute at Dana College will be July 6-11. S. S. Kaldahl

## Attention Women

There will be a Women's Work Exhibit at the L.W.F. at Minneapolis. They would like assistants from the various Synods at the booth in three shifts, 9-1 A.M.; 1-5 P.M.; 5-9 P.M. Kindly send me your name, indicating shift and date you could assist. We hope some of our women can.

Margaret A. Miller  
W.M.S. Pres.

## Toronto Sunday Paper to Suspend Publication

The Sunday Telegram, Ontario's first Sunday newspaper which appeared at Toronto, Ont. March 17 despite many protests from Protestant leaders, ceased publishing on July 28.

John Bassett, publisher, said the Sunday issue will be discontinued be-

## Return To Your Alma Mater

## Dana College Homecoming

October 25-27

cause of high production costs as a "disappointing circulation."

He said the edition had been "losing and expensive proposition" the start.

When the Sunday Telegram first hit the streets it caused a storm of protest from the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada and other religious groups.

The newspaper is facing prosecution in the courts by Attorney General Kelso Roberts of Ontario under the Lord's Day Act of Canada which prohibits unnecessary Sunday work.

Meanwhile, Mr. Roberts said he had no comment on the possible effect of the Telegram's decision to stop its Sunday edition might have on pending litigation. He added "these things have a way of working themselves out."

Mr. Bassett asserted that his paper's Sunday circulation had dropped to 130,000, a figure which did not appeal to advertisers. Consequently, he said advertising had been very disappointing.

The publisher also said he had difficulty in getting carrier boys to deliver the paper on Sunday. He said the Telegram will resume issuing a Saturday week-end edition, comics, magazine section and Sunday features.

## TO GIVE OR NOT TO GIVE

Years ago a young man knelt before his pastor and prayed as he committed himself to God to tithe. His first week's check was \$10 and the tithe \$1. As he grew older he became more prosperous and the tithe was \$7.50 a week. Then \$10. He moved to another city and his tithe was \$100 a week, then \$500. He sent his old friend a wire, "Come and see me immediately."

The pastor arrived at the man's beautiful home. They had a good talk over old times. Finally, the man came to his point. "You remember that promise I made years ago about tithing? How can I get released?"

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Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor  
321 E. 8th Street  
Spencer, Iowa



# Editorials and Comments

## SOME MISSOURI LUTHERANS ARE SORRY

The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, has declined membership in the Lutheran World Federation. Its president, Dr. John W. Behnken, has written that he is grieved about the doctrinal position of the LWF. It is therefore heartening that Dr. O. A. Geiseman, editor-associate on the independent "American Lutheran" the Missouri Synod writes an open letter, which we print in full as follows:

**AN OPEN LETTER . . . .** To the Convention Delegates of the Lutheran World Federation assembling in Minneapolis, Minnesota August 15-25, A.D. 1957—c/o Dr. Carl Lund-Quist, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

My dear friends and co-workers in the Kingdom:

It is to bid you a warm and cordial welcome in the name of Christ as you come from the far corners of the earth to the hospitable shores of America to hold your convention in the Twin Cities, one of our country's great Lutheran strongholds.

Although the synod of which I am a member is not affiliated with the LWF, I can assure you that not a few of our professors, a great many of our pastors, and a very large number of our lay members sincerely wish that we were. Many of us do not share the views expressed in the newspaper of the Lutheran Laymen's League by a German theologian who served one of your affiliated groups during the past several years in far away Australia. We are not sure, in a way, that his views were given such prominent expression, but still we are glad over the fact that these views came from his pen, and not from the pen of one of our own members. It is probable that the very lengthy article, which was given such wide currency in our circles, was not read by too many laymen. What is more, I doubt if it greatly influenced those who did read it. In any event, the sentiments expressed you may be sure do not represent anything like the unanimous views of our synod. Not only I, but a great many others in our synod would like you to know that we wish you well in the LWF.

**WE THANK GOD: . . . .**

For all the good you have been able to do, especially through the National Lutheran Council, in helping our stranded missions after the second World War.

For the effective and organized manner in which you have afforded charitable aid to many peoples who were in need. (We appreciate the privilege of joining you in your work.)

For the part you have played in securing the liberation of churchmen imprisoned by the Communists. (It makes your heart sing to think that God gave you the privilege of effecting the release from imprisonment of a man as Bishop Lajos Ordass of Hungary. We deeply regret that we were unable to assist you in this.)

For the opportunity your Federation provides the Lutherans of the world to get together for a prayerful and rational consideration and discussion of the great truths of the faith and the Kingdom tasks which He has assigned to His church.

As God hears the prayers you speak for and with each other and jointly engage in searching the Scriptures, you are affording the Spirit of God an opportunity so to bless the witness to each other as to make those within world Lutheranism who are weak to become strong and the church to become stronger in saving faith, in Christian understanding, and in dedicated devotion to the God and Father of the Holy Scriptures.

(If there are those in our synod who regard your coming together as contrary to the Word of God, then please be sure that they by no means represent the unanimous view of our synodical membership.

(It is our hope that your getting together in God's Holy Name with the invocations of the Holy Spirit to lead you into a complete oneness on the basis of divine revelation will be richly blessed by the Lord of the Church.)

5) For your graciousness in submitting the preliminary drafts for your brochure, "Christ Frees and Unites" also to the members of our theological seminary at St. Louis and for embodying their suggestion in the final copy which will serve as a guideline for your theological discussions at the convention. (We regard this invitation for critical comments and suggestions on the part of our theological faculty as an eloquent expression of your earnest desire to bring the fullest measure of the theological learning of world Lutheranism into the service of our Lord and His Church.)

6) For the part some of your leaders courageously played in persuading the World Council of Churches to adopt a rule of representation at its conventions by confessional rather than by mere national or geographical groups.

7) For the part played by your leaders in persuading the WCC to busy itself with basic theological issues rather than with the surface matters of a purely activist nature.

**WE PRAY GOD: . . . .**

1) That He will use you and your convention mightily to reflect glory upon His Name and to advance noticeably the cause of His Kingdom.

2) That your witness to the truth of Christian revelation will be so clear and powerful as to call forth the jubilant hallelujahs of all who are earnestly concerned about the weal and woe of the holy Christian Church.

3) That you will employ wisely and effectively the mass communication media of press, radio, and television to tell the peoples of the world, and most particularly the people of the U.S.A., what the Lutheran Church does teach on the basis of the Holy Scriptures and its accepted confessions.

**AN INVITATION . . . .** It was the privilege of my congregation and myself to entertain a notable group of the men at the time of the WCC convention in Evanston. Our men still recall the event with great pleasure. I hope many of your people will take the time while in this country to visit some of our synodical institutions such as our seminary in St. Louis, our teachers' college in River Forest, and pre-theological school in St. Paul. You will receive a very cordial welcome at any of these institutions. I hope also that you will visit some of our parish churches and Christian day-schools in the Twin Cities, Chicago, St. Louis, or wherever you may find it convenient to do so.

It will hearten you, I believe, to know that our pastors and people are a lot of hard-working Christians who are earnestly trying to do the Lord's work as best they can. They will greet you with warm hearts and thus show you how much they would like to be in the LWF. Your visits to them will show them that you understand.

In conclusion, may it please Almighty God to pour out His finest blessings upon you, individually and collectively, and to use you for the strengthening of Lutheranism and for the promotion of Christianity in a world trembling with an H-bomb in its hands.

Yours in Christ,  
OAG



## Church News from here and there

### BEST IN SONG AND MUSIC SET FOR LWF ASSEMBLY

The Lutheran Church is often referred to as "the singing church" and that reputation seems likely to be enhanced at the Third Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation at Minneapolis August 15-25.

The program of song and music that has been arranged for the 11-day international congress, according to the Rev. M. A. Egge of St. Paul, chairman of the music committee, is "so full that one could profitably attend only the musical portions of the assembly and be well repaid for the time and effort expended."

Five of the nation's outstanding Lutheran college choirs will give two concerts each during the Assembly. Appearing will be the choirs of Gettysburg (Pa.) College, St. Olaf College at Northfield Minn., Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, Minn., Wartburg College at Waverly, Ia., and Augsburg College at Minneapolis.

A college concert band known both in this country and abroad—that of Luther College at Decorah, Iowa—will be present throughout the Assembly. The band will serve as the "organ" for the outdoor services, such as the Youth Rally, the Children's Festival and the Concluding Festival.

In addition, the band will play half-hour concerts preceding several of the evening public events in the Minneapolis Auditorium, will lead processions, and will play noon-day and evening concerts in city parks.

A number of organ recitals will be given during noon hours at the Auditorium, whose organ is ranked

as the twelfth greatest in the world. The organ is being completely overhauled and tuned for the Assembly.

Famous organists who will give recitals include Warren Schmidt of Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, Dr. Heinrich Fleischer of Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind., and at Rockefeller Chapel at Chicago University; Dr. Luther Noss, Yale University New Haven, Conn.; Eiji Hashimoto, Tokyo, Japan; Professor Philip Gehring, Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina; and possibly Cantor Willem Mudde of Holland.

Paul Manz, Minneapolis organist, will play for the opening service and for matins and suffrages each day, and Ralph Strom, St. Paul organist will play for the services of compline.

Because music and liturgy are so vital in the Lutheran Church, a series of lectures and panel presentations featuring outstanding leaders in this field has been arranged.

The topics and those who will present them follow:

"Music and Theology," a panel presentation by the Rev. K. Hofmann, Chm., Evangelical Lutheran World Conference for Church Music, Heilsbrunn, German; Dr. Vilmos Vajta, director, Department of Theology, Lutheran World Federation, Geneva; and Dr. Theo. Hoelty-Nickel, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana.

"Why a Liturgical Service, with Emphasis on Worship?" a lecture by Dr. Edgar S. Brown, Jr., director, Department of Worship, ULCA, New York.

"Contemporary Church Music in Europe," a lecture by Cantor Willem Mudde of Holland.

"History of the New Hymn" lecture by Dr. E. E. Ryden, Island, Ill., secretary of the mission on the Common Lutheran Hymnal.

"The Education of the Lutheran Church Musician and the Church's Responsibility to It," a lecture by Dr. Paul Ensrud, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota.

"The Theological Implications of the Liturgy," a lecture by Professor Regin Preter, Aarhus, Denmark.

A special hymnbook, called "Lutheran Hymns," which includes approximately 75 hymns, chosen as the best in Lutheran hymnody, is being published for the Assembly. The hymns are published in three languages, German, Scandinavian, and English, and the melody for each hymn is printed. This hymnbook will be used at all the services of worship and most hymns for public events are from it. It will be sung at practically every event of the Assembly, and the singing will demonstrate the international character of the Lutheran Church, for many will be singing in other languages as well as English.

What was to be one of the highlights of the Assembly, the appearance of the famed St. Thomas Boys' Choir of Leipzig, East Germany, was cancelled in mid-July and a substitute program is being arranged for the evening of August 21.

Failure of the East Zone Government to grant exit permits for the boys to visit America made it necessary for the LWF to cancel their appearance. In addition to its appearance at the Assembly, the choir, once directed by Johann Sebastian Bach, was scheduled for a concert tour.



## A CHARTER FOR OLDER FOLKS

Charter for Lutheran welfare services serving the aging has been set up by the division of Welfare of the National Lutheran Council. It is a valuable for the work of all church-related institutions in the country. The document is believed to be the first of its kind ever prepared by a Lutheran group.

Henry J. Whiting, Division of Welfare, described the document as "evidence of the increasing concern of the churches for the welfare of the aging and of general awareness that the number of older people in our population is steadily increasing."

The two-part document outlines the rights of the older person and the responsibility of the church to them. An introductory section states that "changing social patterns make it necessary for the church to review its charitable endeavors with the purpose of keeping these services consistent with the most advanced developments of the times." It adds:

"The church must meet the needs of older people through congregational programs, through agencies and institutions; through supporting services to the fullest of its resources, as well as through alertness and stimulating the community government to assume their responsibilities to the aging."

The remainder of the text is as follows:

It is the privilege of the older person:

to be a witness for Christ in the witness of faith, love and peace; in sharing that which is his; in behaviour as becomes a Christian.

## A Modern Story

A certain man went down from Atlanta to Birmingham to look for a job, for he had been out of work for three months. While he was driving along the highway the motor of his old car sputtered and quit running. He quickly pulled over to the side of the road and got out to see if he could find the trouble. While he was sweating away, a certain well-fed, finely-tailored clergyman in a new '57 Cadillac came whizzing by on his way to a church convention to address the group on the subject. "The Greatest of These Is Charity." As he passed by the clergyman muttered to himself, "There ought to be a law to keep those old rattletaps off the road. They're dangerous. Somebody might get killed."

A little while later a prosperous layman came buzzing along in his late-model Buick. He was going to address the same church convention as the clergyman. His subject was, "Capitalism, the Perfect Economic System as Proved by the New Testament." As he saw the poor fellow by the side of the road trying to get his old jalopy started, he also muttered to himself, "How right Jesus was when He said, 'For the poor ye have always with you.' Probably that fellow is a lazy rascal who wouldn't work if he had the chance. He's getting just what he deserves."

"To be active and alert in finding and cultivating friends; in developing interests and skills; in serving neighbors and community; in adapting to new conditions and circumstances; in recognizing his worth and usefulness as a redeemed child of God.

"It is the responsibility of the church:

"To assure the older person of the opportunity to live in dignity as a child of God, redeemed by Christ; to worship God with full and complete access to the Means of Grace; to participate in regular and special activities as a member of

And he whizzed on down the highway.

After awhile a colored man came driving down the highway. As he saw the stalled car he slowed down and pulled over to the side of the road. He came back and tried to help the fellow get his car started. When he saw it was no use he said to the man, "It looks like you will have to call a garage and get your car towed in." The poor fellow replied that he had been out of work and was on his way to Birmingham now to look for a job, and didn't have the money to call a garage. The colored man replied, "I'll take care of that for you." When they got to the garage, the mechanic said it would take a couple of hours to fix the car and it would cost about \$10.00. A look of consternation crossed the car-owner's face. At that moment the colored man said to him, "Well, I've got to be on my way. Here's something that will tide you over for a while." When the colored man had passed through the door the owner of the jalopy looked into his hand and there was a crumpled \$20.00 bill.

Of the three men driving down the highway that day, which do you think showed superior character and downright human goodness?

—The Free Methodist

the congregation.

"To guide the family in its Christian duty of honoring the older person by encouraging maximum self-determination; by assuring privacy of person and thought; by fostering skills and abilities.

"To stimulate the community to accept its share in the responsibility of providing for: employment, based on ability; for housing, suited to the needs of older people; for education and recreation, releasing potentials for growth; for health care, dedicated to the preservation of human dignity; for basic income, assuring decent living standards."



# The Washington Observer

By Gerhard Lenski

## HUNGER IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY

As one reads about the vast sums of money tossed about every day by our Congress and spent at home and abroad for strange and wonderful things, it becomes hard to think that there should be such a thing as actual hunger and starvation in so glamorous a place as Washington, D. C. And yet such conditions do exist there and that, in no small and negligible manner. Something of the extent of this need is to be gauged from the extent of recent plans to meet it. Local relief agencies—church agencies among them—have been recognized as inadequate and so, at the recommendation of the District Commissioners, the Senate Appropriations Committee has approved the establishing of a "surplus food" division under the Department of Welfare to administer a relief program of feeding. There will be a director, five interviewers, three investigators and an undisclosed number of clerks and helpers operating on a salary allowance of \$150,000 a year. The Department of Agriculture will provide \$750,000 worth of surplus food for the first year, the same being expected to serve 20,000 persons now on relief and 30,000 more not eligible for relief yet in actual need. It is assumed by the local press and by others acquainted with the situation that the present program will be a continuing one and that it may even be enlarged.

While we as Christians must rejoice to see our government so concerned to care for its needy, it becomes hard to understand how these conditions of need should ever have developed in the first place. America is a rich country. She has more food than she knows what to do with. Washington is a well favored city. The employment rate

is high and the pay scale good. The city is declared to be depression proof. And yet, in well favored Washington we have hunger in the midst of plenty and squalor and human misery next door to beauty and wealth and luxury. Something is wrong somewhere. What can that something be? Can it be that both in Washington and throughout the great land which it serves as a capital city, men and women still need to know what true religion is? Can it be that with all our fine churches and wonderful preaching, we as Americans have not come to know the mind of Christ that we should claim and keep it as our own?

## A CAPITAL FOR CATHOLICISM IN AMERICA

The Roman Catholic Church is strongly entrenched in nearly all the great cities of the United States. The following is the list of the largest of the Catholic archdioceses in the country in their numerical order: Chicago, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Newark, N. J., Detroit, Los Angeles. While Washington, D. C. is not in this list, because of its prominence in so many other matters that concern the Roman hierarchy, it has been named the Capital of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States by James P. McGranery, a great Catholic layman, formerly Attorney General of the United States. It is easy to follow the thinking of Mr. McGranery as he makes this choice and commends it to his Catholic brethren. In Washington we have two of the finest Catholic Universities in the world, Georgetown with its renowned School of Foreign Service, and the Catholic University of America with its many seminaries and colleges. At this time the Cathedral to honor the Virgin Mary is being

pushed to completion on the campus of Catholic University. It probably to be one of the truly great cathedrals of the world, the finest in the land. Added to all this we have the offices of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and of the National Catholic Educational Association located in Washington. Here the bishops of the church regularly assemble and important and far-reaching indeed are the plans made and put into execution. Here representatives of the Roman Church may quickly deal with members of Congress and all the important departments of our government whenever important issues arise. All this to commend the suggestion of Mr. McGranery, why should Washington not become the Capital of Catholicism in America?

Some related facts and figures merit attention as we consider the unabashed readiness of the Catholic Church to push itself into a position of national prominence and power. The official directory, recently issued, reports 34,568,851 Roman Catholics in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii, an increase of 989,834 over last year, an increase of 9,295,678 during the last ten years with conversions totaling 1,255,000. However you interpret these figures, they are impressive in the light of the growing power of the church observable on every hand. We want no unhealthy rivalry with Rome in this land dedicated to religious freedom. However, if religious freedom we prize so much is to be retained by us and our children, we will all do well as Americans to watch closely the growth of the Roman Church in Washington and throughout the land. After all, Washington could become a different kind of capital than the one we now know how to be.

## WASHINGTON IS SHOCKED

Dignified Washington was recently jolted by a report recently presented by Dr. John Pate, Director of the District's Bureau of Disease Control, to the city's Commission

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# od's Own Tranquilizer

By Lyle Paulsen

e farm is often presented as a serene and quiet, God's own tranquilizer. As medicine for the es, it is ranked in the same class as the fishing m and the repose of sheltering trees along a cozy For city folks it is a retreat from the tense mad- of the impersonal crowds where nerves are split often than atoms.

untry people are portrayed as staunch and stable, y living it up with a square dance and a Saturday chat in town. They have the wind in their faces a sturdy ruggedness in their souls. The romanticism e pioneers still hovers over the cornfield so recently ie sod.

w odd it is to hear news reports from Iowa's first l Health Conference "that the suicide rate among ers is 'higher than in the city.'" It strikes one as ge to read, "And farm children, said Dr. R. A. Jen- Minneapolis, Minn., have no particular emotional lems different from other children." For those e home is on the farm, there can be the same meas- of tension, restlessness, and unhappiness as else- e.

used to be that a farmer could have a bad year and ve by living on oatmeal and potatoes through the er. The cost of production is so high now that a bad can pile up debts that several good years are need- o erase. Successive reverses could involve a life- in overcoming. Possibilities of that nature are on the emotions.

uctuations in crop programs and prices make con- decisions necessary. A wrong decision can affect ole season of labor. To make these choices can a lot out of a man, especially when the outcome etched over months of anxious anticipation. The er is afflicted in varying degrees by the success a and it can drive him just as hard as it does the banker or the corporation lawyer.

People on the farm have the same number of problems as city people. What is God's tranquilizer?

There are thirty animal diseases that can be trans- mitted to humans. Dangerous insecticides are constantly in use, requiring caution always. One slip of attention to some detail can mean direct harm and death to ani- mals, to self, and to children. Electricity, gasoline, and power tools are like ammunition. Even if there are no large red signs spelling out danger, the warning lights are forever flickering in the farmer's mind.

Wherever a church lifts its spire, it is not always in a setting of tranquility. The bells that call rural people to moments of worship, invite them to an atmosphere that can be quite a contrast to that of the farmyard.

It is obvious that the tension and strain which are also found in a farmer's life will not be alleviated by a cabinet full of aspirins or a three hundred dollar tele- vision set in the living room. The wear and tear on his soul will not be changed by a beautiful sunset or the soft breeze wafting across the feedlot. Watching the birth of a lamb or the hay fork swooping into the hay- mow will not give him the contact with his Lord that he needs.

The faith of the Christian Church must beat in the heart of all of life. Every rural home must feel that the Church is more than a Sunday morning institution. A time of morning prayer and commitment become es- sential needs for every day. The presence of God that is felt in consecrated study and meditation on the Scriptures is a saving power.

Maybe there hasn't been a new member added to the rural congregation in over a year simply because there was no one to be persuaded. That still does not measure the place and importance of the work the church has done. Besides the eternal destiny of rural people, there is the day by day needs for which the Gospel is the answer. The aggressive and joyful handling of that Gospel should be a week by week adventure for every farm church member and every country pastor.

## BOOK REVIEW

ychotherapy and Religion, by Hen- untrip, Harper & Brothers, \$3.00

e writer of this book would ably classify himself as a "neo- dian." Plainly at variance with d and holding views which are ore compatible with the Christian of life and of personality, he rtheless acknowledges his indebted- ss to Freud. One sentence which s out the difference which Gun- has with Freud reads: "The re adult human being does not rganic pleasures primarily, but ive self-expression in the medium lly personal relationships."

Freud hoped for "salvation" for dis- turbed persons through psychoanalysis but became pessimistic about its therapeu- tic results. Guntrip is likewise pessimistic about psychoanalysis, pointing out that therapy is not gained by analysis given by an analyst who approaches the patient with a detached, impersonal and scientific manner. Therapy is rather effected by the psychotherapist who gives under- standing and affection, since the pa- tient must have the help of another person and must be given the affection denied him in his early years. Only so can the weak foundations of the personality structure be strengthened. Since the patient needs "salvation"

first and "communion" next, it is easy to see how the gospel which of- fers both in the ultimate sense has much to offer both for the mainte- nance of mental health and maturity and for regaining it. Guntrip makes clear that sound religious experience is at least a very helpful ally of the psychotherapist.

Some of Guntrip's "theology" is not theology subscribed to by Lutherans, but this is one of the good books for our pastors to add to their shelves on this subject. Plainly it is not a book with a simple view of personality with ten easy steps to success.

—Gilbert A. Jensen



# We Learn About Each Other

## ADMINISTRATION—U.E.L.C.

By Margaret Miller

The divisions of the Women's Missionary Society are identical with those of the Church: a general organization of nine districts and 264 societies with 10,242 women. This will change as we organize into Women of the Church. As an auxiliary of the church, its activities include the missionary, educational, and benevolent work of the church.

The main business of the organization is taken care of at the annual general convention. The delegates vote to elect the officers of the Executive Board, amend the general constitution and by-laws, and consider whatever other matters of the Women's Missionary Society that need attention. Between conventions matters are handled by the Executive Board.

All elected officers of the Women's Missionary Society, Local, District, or Synod, serve on a volunteer basis in the interest of serving the Lord and His Church. There is no central office and no paid personnel.

At each District Convention one member with an alternate is elected to serve on the nominating committee. Should they not be able to serve, it is the duty of the District Executive Board to appoint their representative.

Our officers are: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Statistical Secretary and Treasurer. The President and the Secretaries are elected one year; the Treasurer and Vice-President the other year. All officers, except Treasurer, may be eligible for two consecutive elections. The Treasurer may be eligible for three consecutive elections. The term of office is two years, and the Executive Board may not include more than three pastors' wives.

These officers are elected by ballot at the Annual Convention by simple majority and constitute the Executive Board. Our annual convention is held during the Annual Convention of the Church. The delegates are: members of the executive board, members of the literature committee, wives of pastors, district officers and delegates elected by the local societies in the ratio of one delegate for each twenty-five members, or fraction thereof.

The Executive Board presents a budget to the annual convention where it is discussed and voted upon. They also present recommendations and suggestions may be received from districts and societies.

They appoint a Literature Committee who provides literature and arranges programs for the local organizations. The purpose of these programs is to acquaint the local societies with the activities of foreign, home and inner mission work. The Literature Committee meets with the Executive Board and District Officers at the convention.

The President submits an annual report of the WMS proceedings to the Synod and confers through its Executive Board with the President of the Synod. She presides at all meetings of the annual convention, makes all appointments not otherwise provided for, and is ex officio member of every committee.

Dues of twenty-five cents have been in effect since our organization was begun. Our budget is met through voluntary contributions. The travel expenses of the Executive Board to the one meeting a year and to the Synodical Convention are cared for from the General Fund; however, with increased travel for the merger this will need attention.

The District Officers correspond to the Synodical set-up.

We bring three articles about the administration of women's work of the three merging churches.

Their officers plan their own District Convention; however, the Synodical President may offer suggestions. The District meetings are held annually in conjunction with the regular District Church Convention. One-half of the offerings sent to the Synodical WMS Treasurer. All contributions sent to the District Treasurer who sends it on to the Synodical WMS Treasurer.

Circuit meetings are usually held in April and May; the number varies with Districts. They are planned by District Officers.

The Ansgar Lutheran is the official organ of the Women's Missionary Society. It publishes news and information about the WMS work as well as articles on our Missions.

"Publish glad tidings; tidings of peace;  
Tidings of Jesus, redemption and release."

## ADMINISTRATION—A.L.C.

By Mrs. Theo. Stellhorn, Jr.

As the nation is to the state, county, and local government, so is the organization of the Women's Missionary Federation to the District, Group, and Local society. This international Federation is divided into geographical Districts, which are divided into geographical Groups and these in turn are composed of the various local societies. And just as the nation is made up of individuals, and is nothing without them, the WMF is made up of individual members and is nothing without their full participation.

Starting with the grass roots, the local society meeting is ideally shared by all the women of the church, having a three-fold purpose of assisting in the entire program of the local congregation, the church, and the WMF. The officers are basically president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer—all elected to carry out this program along with the Department Chairmen, namely: Christian Service, Home Missions, Junior, Life Memberships and Memorials, Missionary Education, New Guinea Missions, Special Needs and Thankoffering.

To gain inspiration and information, Group conventions are held once each year, with the District President officiating in attendance. A delegate body, one for every twenty members of the local society, takes care of the business. Group clinics or workshops are also offered each year.

To broaden the scope of interest and activity, District and Federation conventions are held biennially, on alternate years, so that every year there is either a District or Federation convention. Business is taken care of by a delegate body of one delegate for every fifty members of the local society.

The administrative duties, which include planning these conventions, fall to the respective executive boards from the national level on down to the local level, all following a similar pattern of operation.

Federation Board = Officers + 8 Department Chairmen  
District Presidents + Editors

District Board = Officers + 8 Department Chairmen  
Group Presidents

Group Board = Officers + 8 Department Chairmen  
Society Presidents

Society Board = Officers + 8 Department Chairmen + 1  
operating under the Women of the Church plan) District Presidents

The Federation Board meets each year in January. District presidents, who are in attendance at this meeting, then call their District Board meetings. After the District



meetings the Group presidents, who have attended district Board meetings, hold their Group Board meetings with all of the local society presidents attending. In turn relay the information to the local society. From the WMF Office at 57 East Main Street in Columbus, Ohio, the Federation President and Outlook Editor conduct respective duties, there is really just a hop, skip, and a jump to the Marys and Marthas in the local societies who are anxious to serve in all capacities as women of the

### ADMINISTRATION—E.L.C.

By Alice C. Sanne

One of the things we've guarded very carefully in our organization is a democratic spirit. We're eager to have every member, no matter how inexperienced, feel that she has a vital part in our organization, so we've tried to root out every indication of class distinction. We serve the Lord! We encourage all members to feel free to criticize and to do as they see fit, trusting them to do it in a spirit of love that befits a Christian.

In order to keep this democratic spirit and also to keep in touch with the grass roots, we have dual leadership in our organization—a lay woman unsalaried and elected to the convention serving as president, and a professional woman, salaried and giving full time to the work, serving as executive secretary.

Two heads are usually better than one, and when there are two heads one will not act apart from the other. This provides wider consideration to each problem and creates a more democratic spirit. Naturally, each major decision, especially if it has to do with policy, is weighed and decided on by the Board.

There are problems that could arise with dual leadership, but we have felt that the benefits far outweigh the disadvantages.

The General Board consists of the 10 district presidents elected at their own district conventions; the general officers of the WMF consisting of the president, three vice-presidents, recording secretary, financial secretary, and corresponding secretary elected at the general convention of the organization for a two-year period and eligible for one year; and the department secretaries who are appointed by the Executive Board and district presidents. The Executive Board consists of the above-named general officers. The Administrative Committee consisting of the president, recording and financial secretaries acts on decisions between meetings of the Executive Board.

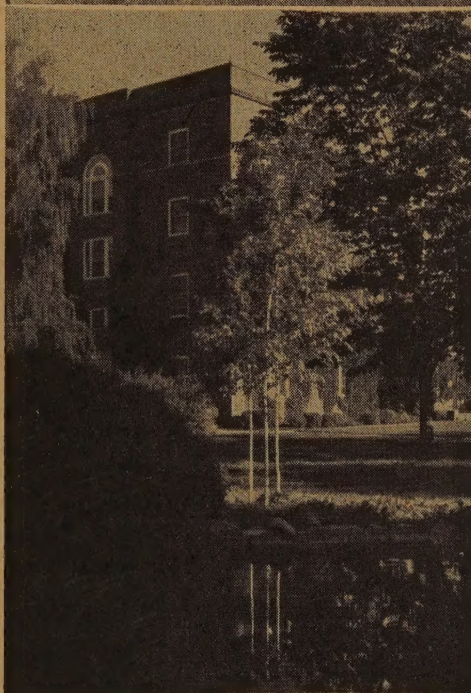
The executive secretary is ex officio on all boards and committees. She and the office staff are salaried but all other and department secretaries serve on a voluntary basis. The executive secretary brings a report annually to the Church Council.

Most of the business of the organization is carried on by the Executive Board and the General Board. Such items as election of officers, constitutional changes, and the reports for the Life Membership and In Memoriam department, etc., are handled at the general convention which is held biennially. Only the delegates (one from each local society, General Board members, pastors' wives, circuit riders, and women missionaries home on furlough) are eligible to vote. The convention is intended to be mainly educational. "Where there is no vision the people perish" (Prov. 29:18).

The WMF is divided into 10 districts and 117 circuits with approximately 2,900 societies and over 154,000 members.



### SUMMER ON THE CAMPUS



Across the Midwest this year the rains came and a campus known for its beauty is even more beautiful than usual.

These are scenes from the Pioneer Memorial area, the Quadrangle and College Park.





# THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

## LINES From OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR

### DO YOU KNOW WHAT?

By George J. Robertson

Do you know what the Youth Board is?

No, it isn't a teeter-totter. It is a group of seventeen leaders chosen by Leaguers to plan and guide the work of the Synodical Luther League.

Who are these leaders?

They are the presidents of the ten District Luther Leagues:

**East Canada** — Pastor Fred Jensen, Salmonhurst, N. B.

**Atlantic** — Miss Ruth Aaskov, Rt. 1, Cumberland Center, Maine

**Illinois** — Jim Schaeffer, 19759 Coyle, Detroit, Mich.

**Wisconsin** — Pastor Rolland Hansen, Brooklyn, Wis.

**Minnesota** — Pastor Edward Hansen, Hutchinson, Minn.

**Iowa** — Pastor Lloyd Lorensen, Exira, Iowa

**Nebraska** — Pastor Vernon Andersen, Hazard, Nebr.

**North Dakota-Montana** — Pastor Virgil Andersen, Flaxton, N. Dak.

**West Canada** — Pastor Einer Olsen, Hussar, Alberta

**Pacific** — Pastor Melius Bollesen, Norwalk, Calif.

The seven other members of the Youth Board are the four officers of the Synodical Luther League, the Youth Director, and two members at large. The four officers are: President, Pastor LeRoy Andersen, 485-A Crestview Drive, Pewaukee, Wis.; V-President, Pastor Donald Olsen, Camp Douglas, Wis.; Secretary, Miss Carol Cook, 1760 N. Clarkson, Fremont, Nebr.; Treasurer, Mr. David Larsen, Rt. 2, Harlan, Iowa. The members at large are Miss Jelayne Carpenter, 506 Second Ave., Pewaukee, Wis. and Mr. David Hooper, 3227 Avenue G, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

How often does the Youth Board meet?

Usually the Youth Board meets only once a year. The most recent meeting was held last June 27th at Fresno, California.

One of the first things the Board decided at that meeting was to publish in our church papers an open letter of thanks to our Synod for placing the Synodical Luther League on the budget of Synod.

The Board also voted to authorize the necessary additional funds needed in serving as hosts to our European guests from Europe this summer.

It was decided to give the Board of Foreign Missions the \$2,200.00 which had been raised during the last two years for the training of a young man from Colombia to South America for the ministry. Because of local conditions in Colombia, no young man was assigned to the League to date, but it is hoped that there will be a student entering Seminary soon.

In order to encourage all the Leagues of our Synod to improve their programs and service projects, the Board recommended to the Convention that a certificate be awarded to each League which meets a set of standards based on a Luther League rating sheet prepared by Dr. Wilton Bergstrand, Youth Director of the Augustana Synod. This recommendation was adopted by the Leaguers at the Fresno Convention. You will be interested in knowing that the idea of rating Leagues came as a suggestion from a Leaguer who is not a member of the Youth Board.

Do you have some good ideas for improving our Luther Leagues? If so, send them to the Luther League Secretary or to your Youth Director.

## Make It to Minneapolis

Are you making every effort to make it to Minneapolis? This assembly of Lutherans from all over the world is a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience for us! At the Youth Weekend, August 23-25, we will be privileged to sing in a Youth Choir of 5,000 voices, to participate in or view a huge afternoon parade, and to hear a penetrating message by Bishop Hanns Lilje, one of the most prominent figures in world-Lutheranism.



Bishop Lilje was born in Hannover, Germany, on August 28, 1899. After studying at Leipzig and Goettingen universities and at the Cloister Loccum seminary in Hannover, he served as youth pastor of the Church in Hannover.

Deeply interested in vital Christian movements and work of youth, he served as vice-president of the L.W.F.'s Student Christian Federation from 1927 to 1934. In 1937 he was elected general secretary of the Lutheran World Convention.

Concerning his life and activity during the Hitler era, we quote from the L.W.F. Newsletter: "Bishop Lilje was anti-Nazi during the Hitler era in Germany. He fought for free proclamation of the unadulterated Christian gospel in areas of North and West Germany, Saxony, where Nazi 'German Christian' heresy had the strongest party support.

A wave of terrorism followed the July 20, 1944, attempt on Adolf Hitler's life, and in August of that year, a day before his birthday, Hanns Lilje was arrested by the Gestapo on an ungrounded suspicion that he was a spy. Together with other resistance movement members he was chained in the highest floor of the Berlin prison, even during heavy late-war Allied air raids on Germany's capital city. In January, 1945, Hanns Lilje was tried by a special Nazi tribunal and sentenced to death. Transferred to Nuremberg to await execution, he was liberated in May by American soldiers."

Following the war he returned to Hannover where he began to rebuild his church. Two years later he be-

### YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

#### AUGUST YOUTH OFFICE SCHEDULE

Because your Youth Director will be attending conferences almost the entire month of August, we give you the regular office hours when you will find Miss Janet Nielsen, our office secretary at the Youth Office.

Regular hours are from 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments may be made by calling either the Youth Office phone, 2772 or Miss Nielsen's home phone, 3672.

Pastor Robertson may be contacted at following addresses during the month:

- August 5 to 11, American Lutheran Bible Camp, Onamia, Minn.
- August 11 to 14, Blair, Nebraska
- August 15 to 25, % Mrs. Valborg Anderson, 16 Ludlow, St. Paul, Minn. Phone, Midway 6-6928.
- August 26 to 30, % L.S.A.A. Ashram, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.

**BE SURE TO SEE THE YOUTH DISPLAY AT THE L.W.F. FIRST FLOOR OF AUDITORIUM**

came bishop of Hannover. In 1949 he was elected vice-chairman of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany, and in 1952 he was elected president of the Lutheran World Federation.

This is the man, rich in experience and in faith, who will address us at the Youth Rally on August 24!

## HAMLIN FLOAT TAKES SECOND PRIZE

The Hamlin Luther League of Hamlin, Iowa, won second prize for its float in the Exira, Iowa, Centennial Parade July 4th. The Luther Leaguers chose a passage from the book of Ruth for their theme . . . "Whither thou goest, I will go." It was a tribute to the pioneering of the Christian men and women, who first tilled the soil of the surrounding area.

Dressed in the garb of pioneers were Jim Durbin and Sharlene Khynn, who rode the float. The gilded plow and cross were indicative of the agricultural and religious zeal of the people in settling this vast area. Bill Bell and John Davis, League president, took the reins of a shiny new tractor used in pulling the float. A Byriel of Dana College chairmaned the committee which prepared the float plans, and the entire league participated in building it.



**SECOND PRIZE WINNER IN THE EXIRA CENTENNIAL PARADE.** Luther Leaguers from Hamlin Lutheran Church, Hamlin, Iowa, are shown dressed in early day pioneer costumes aboard the float, which won second prize in the big parade. Jim Durbin and Sharlene Khynn are the costumed couple.



## BY THE FIRESIDE

### I BELIEVE

By Kathryn Blackburn Peck

The half-formed prayer my faltering  
lips once pleaded  
When faith's white candle flickered  
faint and dim  
On the heart's altar, one deep night  
of sorrow,  
Was carried through the darkness  
straight to Him;  
And He who loves His child will not  
forget.  
I know that He will answer—even  
yet!

The human arm I needed so for com-  
fort  
When most I craved its strength I  
found withdrawn;  
But as I grieved, another in dire  
weakness  
Looked unto me for courage to press  
on.  
For his sake, then, my arm must needs  
be strong,  
And in my soul was born a marching  
song!

The bitter pain I bore seemed cruel—  
useless,  
And I besought Him, "Take this cross  
from me,  
That I may serve Thee better!" But  
He answered,  
"Nay, Rather—I will come and walk  
with thee;  
For in the twilight valley, near to  
death,  
My children find the star of brightest  
faith."

I know that all things work for good  
together  
To those who love Him and His wis-  
dom own,  
That what He doeth shall stand firm  
forever,  
And that His purposes shall be made  
known,  
That all who come to Him, He will  
receive.  
These are God's promises— and I  
BELIEVE!

—Gospel Herald

### TO A TEACHER

You who give yourself so earnestly  
Sabbath after Sabbath without pay  
In either gold or silver of the realm,  
Remember this: there is a chance  
today  
That in your giving you may give  
unpriced,  
To some heart, a new vision of the  
Christ.  
Remember that the careful words you  
speak  
May cling in memory of life-time  
through;  
That a quick gesture to accent truth  
May make an imprint on some mind,  
of you;  
That if there is a new thought you can  
bring  
It may unseal some hitherto dry  
spring.  
And if you please the Master at your  
task  
There is no greater thing the heart  
can ask.

—Grace Noll Crowell

### THE MILKMAN WAS STARTLED

On one occasion when Philip Dodd-  
ridge, an evangelistic minister of by-  
gone days, had delivered a rather hot  
sermon on the subject of soul-winning  
to his congregation, one of the mem-  
bers approached him afterwards and

said, "Don't you think you have been  
rather hard this morning?"

He inquired why, and she replied,  
"Well, I am a poor widow with a fam-  
ily of children to bring up, and I have  
to work from morning until night at  
needlework to do this. What time  
have I to go out soul-winning?"

He looked at her very kindly and  
said, "Who brings your milk?" She  
replied, "The milkman." "Who brings  
your bread?" She replied, "The bak-  
er." He smiled at her and said, "May  
God bless you." The interview was  
closed.

She went home and could not forget  
those words, and all night she was  
unable to sleep, but thought of her  
duty to the lost souls around. In the  
morning she got up very early, as  
she could not sleep. The milk bottle  
was not on the step as usual, so the  
milkman had to knock. She opened  
the door and gave it to him, and he  
had reached the gate before she had  
plucked up sufficient courage to speak  
to him. With a beating heart and a  
trembling voice she said, "Come here  
—I want to ask you something. Do  
you ever consider where you will go  
when you die?" It was rather a star-  
tling way to begin! He looked at her  
with anxious face and replied, "That  
is a question that has been troubling

me for the last fortnight."

"Come inside," she said, "and  
will have a talk about it." And then  
and then in her front room she led  
the milkman to the Saviour.

In the short space of a year  
woman led twenty-six souls to  
Saviour. —The Flame (England)

### FLORIST GIVES TIMELY TIP

A sign on the rear of a Dea  
florist's truck says: "Drive carefu  
or—the next load of flowers may  
for you."

This tip will doubtless be hee  
by some drivers who do not da  
premature funerals; but others  
see it, will, no doubt, smile and  
"Clever advertising"—and go righ  
disregarding traffic regulations.

A little consideration of the w  
should convince drivers that the  
ist is virtually saying: "Although co  
less drivers increase the number  
funerals, and funerals increase  
flower-selling business, I am will  
to sacrifice some of it to careful d  
ing; for I take no pleasure in f  
automobile accidents."

The Creator of flowers also sa  
"I have no pleasure in the death  
the wicked; but that the wicked  
from his way and live: turn ye, t  
ye, from your evil ways; for  
will ye die?" (Ezek. 33:11)—Now

### A WOMAN'S CLEVERNESS

A Chicago housewife got fed  
with the voluminous corresponde  
in which she invariably found h  
self involved when a department s  
bill was wrong or when she foc  
it necessary to write to a manufac  
er about an unsatisfactory item. W  
she pondered, happens to the wo  
who hasn't got a college degree  
how on earth does she fill out th  
blanks and answer those questions?

She decided that she would f  
out the next time a suitable occas  
arose. So when her iron went b  
she took the tag that had come on  
and, across the back she printed cru  
ly, "My Iron She No Get Hot."

Promptly, she received a new i  
and no blank to fill out from the f  
tory's service department. —Tide.

Small Bobby was playing on  
back porch when suddenly there  
a great clattering and banging  
there.

"Bobby," called his mother, "w  
are you doing?"

"Nothing," he answered, "Noth  
at all."

"What are you doing it with?"  
manded his mother.

A small voice answered: "With  
hammer."



**WELCOME TO THE ASSEMBLY**

(Continued from Page 1)

We assumed that there are no theological differences at the core of Lutheranism. We may discover that we cannot speak with one voice on what is necessary for Lutheran unity. We want to open up existential questions growing out of the Study Document like, When two Lutheran churches agree on the content of the confession of faith, why can't there be altar and pulpit fellowship? Such a question is today a realistic one for American Lutherans, Australians, South Africans and many other groups. The L.W.F. has stated repeatedly that coming together as Lutherans we will be able to contribute most to the ecumenical movement. Some within our churches disagree and say outside of Lutheranism challenge this statement. These Christians feel that a world confessional union weakens total Christian unity. A question needs a frank answer. When we have Lutheran bodies outside the L.W.F. who accuse us of being too rigid in our confessionalism while others say we are not confessional enough. Who is right?

So many questions have been asked regarding the reason for such an assembly. Why call together so many delegates and official visitors? Why spend so much money in travel and costs on a meeting when there are so many other desperate needs? These are honest questions which deserve honest answers. Let me give three.

To conduct our business and plan our program. The simple fact is that an organization periodically needs to review its record and to authorize new work. In the case of the L.W.F. this happens to come every five years. Since the highest authority for the L.W.F. is an assembly of officially elected delegates we will be electing delegates and members of the Executive Committee, we will be hearing reports on activities of the five-year period of the past and authorizing plans for the future in the time ahead. In a rapidly changing society we will need to think clearly and plan carefully if we can best serve one another. To discover ourselves. By this assembly is meant the nature of our unity as Lutheran churches. Set against the background of centuries of church history we have had only a few models—actually only one as a federation—to explore what we are and what we have in common. After centuries of isolation it is not surprising that it will take some time and effort to learn to know each other and to articulate our common faith. This assembly is only one step in that direction. This is the first time in our

very short Federation history that we have used a theme which goes to the heart of the question of our inner unity. We may find our differences greater than we realized and wider than can be solved through a federation. Thus delegates have a heavy responsibility both in adequately representing the churches on these questions and also in trying to help one another in giving answers.

3. To contribute to ecumenicity. Our Lutheran Church is committed to Christian unity. This should never be forgotten or neglected. Broadly speaking we are also committed to this by being true to our understanding and teaching based on Holy Scriptures and our confessions of faith. Accepting

these two basic commitments we must study and discuss "Christ Frees and Unites" in the light of how seriously we accept our responsibility toward the ecumenical movement. In one sense this is our basic reason for existence as a confessional movement. When we take the command of Christ seriously we must pray, we must strive and we must work for the unity of the Church. This task is urgent and compelling. Our Study Document, the lectures at the Assembly, our discussion groups and our final consensus are all devoted to this task.

Welcome to the Assembly! Pray for it!

Carl E. Lund-Quist  
Minneapolis, Minn., June 6, 1957.



**"Nothing  
astonishes men  
so much as common  
sense and plain dealing."**

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Look for common sense and plain dealing when your Lutheran Mutual agent calls. You'll get both. You can depend on him to be scrupulously careful in telling his story.

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\*Synodical Budget comprises: (1) Children's Homes, (2) School Fund, (3) General, (4) Home Mission, (5) Indian Mission, (6) Pension Fund.  
 \*\*Extra-Synodical Comprises: (F) Foreign Mission (where most needed), (So.) South America, (Ja.) Japan, (Sa.) Santal, (Su.) Sudan, (J) Jewish, (Ch.) China.

	Fiscal Year	Calendar Year	Extra-Synodical**
Previously acknowledged (July 12, 1957)	64598.01	13997.93	33812.42
Rutland, Ia., Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid in memory of Marie Thomsen for Pension Fund	5.00	5.00	
Selma, Calif., Pella Luth. Church in memory of Marius Goldbeck of Ruskin, Nebr., from the following: Messrs. and Mmes. A. Raymond Anderson, Emil Goldbeck, Daniel Goldbeck and Anton Goldbeck for the School Fund	10.00	10.00	
Whittier, Calif., St. Andrew Luth. Church for the General Fund	190.34	190.34	
Waupaca, Wis., Trinity Ev. Luth. Church—General	750.00	750.00	
Hamlin, Iowa, Hamlin Luth. S. S. from the Gardner Bible School \$1.25 and Hamlin Bible School \$10.61	11.86		Ja. 11.86
Racine, Wis., From a friend	10.00		(F) 10.00
Morgan, Minn., Bethany Luth. Church—Gen. Fund	180.00	180.00	
From Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Grill in memory of Mr. Paul Paulsen, Redwood Falls for Home Mission	1.00	1.00	
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Ev. Luth. S. S. collections and birthday banks to the Powder Milk Fund for the children of Hong Kong	100.00		
Easton, Calif., Immanuel Ev. Luth. Church from Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hansen in memory of Johanna Wolfe for Home Mission	3.00	3.00	
In memory of Mrs. Peter Pilegard, from Mrs. M. Marthedal, \$10; Messrs.-Mmes. J. E. Jamison \$5; Frederickson, \$5; C. Christensen and Dorothy, \$5; Borge Nielsen, \$4; and Herman Petersen and Mrs. H. Hansen, \$2	31.00		Sa. 31.00
Westbrook, Maine, Trinity Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Arthur Peterson from Mrs. Elsie Aaskov, Messrs. and Mmes. Jorgen Sorensen, Julius Kloth, Alfred Christiansen, Sr., Adolph Warming, Laurids Warming and Nyholm Hansen	7.00		Ja. 7.00
Elk Horn, Ia., Elk Horn Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Martha Peitersen from neighbors and friends	32.00		(F) 32.00
Milltown, Wis., Milltown Luth. Church from the Busy Bees	17.00		Ja. 17.00
Saxeville, Wis., St. John's Luth. Church for the Lepers from the D.V.B.S.	7.78		Su. 7.78
Dannebrog, Nebr., Dannebrog Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Andrew Miller, Mr. Andrew Miller and Mr. Nels Miller for Home Mission	10.00	10.00	
From Mrs. Ida Lemburg \$5 and \$1.40 from Mrs. S. C. Reimers	6.40		
Dickson, Canada, C. R. Pederson, (Su.) \$7 and (So.) \$6	13.00		13.00
Dickson, Canada, Elenor Pederson, (So.) \$10; (Sa.) \$10; and (Su.) \$5	25.00		25.00
Dickson, Canada, Mrs. F. Pederson, (So.) \$5	5.00		5.00
Oak Park, Ill., From Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Nielsen in memory of Mrs. Svend Ostergaard, Chicago, Ill.	10.00		So. 10.00
Kansas City, Kansas, Westwood Luth. Church for the General Fund \$150; Foreign Miss. \$35.10	185.10	150.00	35.10
Grantsburg, Wis., Minnesota Dist. Luther League Bible Camp Mission Offering	115.15		Ja. 115.15
Racine, Wis., Convention Offerings—for Home Mission, \$283.00	1127.61	283.00	(F) 473.36
Elk Horn, Ia., Elk Horn Luth. Church from Mrs. And. Petersen for support of a student	40.00		Sa. 40.00
Des Moines, Ia., Highland Park Luth. S. S. for relief work	6.00		
Chicago, Ill., Atonement Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Svend Ostergaard	5.00		So. 5.00
Kankakee, Ill., Trinity Luth. Church, \$16.84 and from C. Bertelsen \$5	21.84		
From the Ladies Aid in memory of Fred Rasmussen \$2 and Mr. Schultz \$2 for Pension Fund	4.00	4.00	
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Ellen Smith from Mr. and Mrs. J. Roscoe Jensen	5.00		Sa. 5.00
Moorhead, Ia., Bethesda Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Wallace Peterson, Stromsburg, Nebr., for Home Mission	10.00	10.00	
Bowbells, N. Dak., Bethlehem Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. John Aune for Home Mission Bible School Collections	2.00	2.00	
Camp Douglas, Wis., St. Peter's Luth. Church	44.23		Su. 44.23
Luck, Wis., First Engl. Ev. Luth. Church, from the Daily Vacation Bible School each \$5.82 for (Sa.) and (So.)	40.00		(F) 40.00
In memory of Alvin Ayers from the Willing Workers for the Home Mission	11.64		11.64
From the Church	2.00	2.00	
Milltown, Wis., Milltown Luth. Church for the General Fund	3.00		
Hartland, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Church for the General Fund	200.00	200.00	
Whittier, Calif., St. Andrew Luth. Church	100.00	100.00	
Oakland, Calif., Our Saviour's Luth.—General	152.27		(F) 96.17
Moorhead, Ia., Bethesda Luth. Church in memory of Mr. Hans Jensen, Moorhead for Home Miss.	200.00	200.00	
Fresno, Calif., Grace Luth. Church 1957 quota paid in full	10.00	10.00	
Selma, Calif., Pella Luth. S. S.	100.00		
Brokerage—Gideon Society \$38.77	30.77		Su. 30.77
Poy Sippi, Wis., First Luth. from the Family Mission Workers for the June, July and August salary for Mark Thomsen	300.00		Su. 300.00
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Congregation in memory of Mrs. Ellen Smith from Miss Emma Mark, Home Mission	5.00	5.00	
Westbrook, Maine, Trinity Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Arthur Peterson from the Ladies Aid	10.00		Ja. 10.00
Lincoln, Nebr., Synodical Women's Missionary Society Treasurer:			
IOWA Dist.: From Junior Mission Soc., Jacksonville, \$21.97 and Women of the Church, West Branch in memory of Alfred A. Jensen \$5	26.97		So. 26.97
Dorcas Society, Immanuel Luth., Harlan, Ia., for Home Mission and School Fund Silver Anniv. 2.50 ea.	5.00	5.00	
WIS. Dist.: Our Saviour's Luth. Ladies Aid, Oshkosh, \$15; First Luth. Ladies Aid, Poy Sippi, \$5; Our Saviour's Luth. W.M.S., Oshkosh, \$25; Trinity Luth. W.M.S., Waupaca, \$15; and Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Waupaca \$50 for Rev. Morck's Translation Fund.	110.00		So. 110.00
Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Waupaca, Home Mission \$2.42 and School Fund \$2.43 Silver Anniv.	4.85	4.85	
Emmaus Luth. WMS, Racine, In memory of Julius Petersen from Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Sorenson	5.00		Sa. 5.00
From the Wis. Dist. WMS for Margaret Jacobsen's salary for August	70.00		Su. 70.00
NEBR. Dist.: Dry Creek Ladies Aid, Dannebrog, \$3.50; Altura Ladies Aid, Denver, \$38.10; Pella Luth. Churchwomen, Omaha, \$130.65; Luth. Daughters, Blair, \$18.30; Churchwomen, First Luth., Fremont, \$2; and Washington Ladies Aid, Washington, \$5.70 for Margaret Nissen's Operation expense	198.25		Su. 198.25
Churchwomen, First Lutheran, Fremont	18.24		So. 18.24
Pella Luth. Churchwomen, Omaha, \$36.50; Churchwomen, First Luth., Fremont, \$5.00; Dannevirke Ladies Aid, Dannebrog, \$10.25, Silver Anniv.—Home Mission \$23.62 and School Fund \$23.63	47.25	47.25	
Chicago, Ill., Atonement Luth. Church in memory of Marie Ostergaard from Mr. and Mrs. John Sorensen	5.00		So. 5.00
Denmark, Wis., From Anonymous	10.00		
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church—General Fund	264.41	264.41	
Fresno, Calif., from Mr. and Mrs. J. P. I. Beck in memory of their parents Mr. and Mrs. Niels and Marie Beck, Denmark \$50 and Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hansen, Fresno, \$50 for Pension Fund	100.00	100.00	
In memory of Mrs. Johanna Wolfe \$50 Pension Fund	25.00		
In memory of their children Herman and Viola Beck for the Children's Home	50.00	50.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69693.97</b>	<b>16609.78</b>	<b>35621.94</b>

Received with thanks.

Blair, Nebraska, July 19, 1957.

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer

Previously acknowledged (July 19, 1957)

Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Chris Jensen from Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen for the Pension Fund	69693.97	16609.78	35621.94
	3.00	3.00	



So. Dak., Spring Valley Luth. Church, Pension \$41.; School, \$50.; Home Mission \$50...  
 anisco, Calif., From Mr. and Mrs. Marius Thisted in memory of their Aunt Ellen Smith  
 te, No. Dak., Community Luth. Church from the Vacation Bible School  
 Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Chris Jensen, Plentywood, Mont.,  
 m Mr. and Mrs. Paul Norgaard \$5; Mr. and Mrs. John Tommerup, \$2; Emmaus Sew-  
 Circle \$10; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dahlgard and Inger Oleson \$5, all of Westby, Mont.,  
 Pension  
 m Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Nelson, Westby, Mont., \$10; Mr. and Mrs. Immanuel Larson,  
 Culbertson, Mont., and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hundtofte, Sidney, Mont., \$2 for Children's  
 Home  
 m Plentywood Neighbors \$15; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Christensen, Westby, Mont., \$2; Mr.  
 and Mrs. Peder Norgard, Westby, \$5 for Home Mission  
 m Mrs. Johanne Hansen, Sidney, Mont.  
 Mont., Danville Luth. Church from Mr. and Mrs. Peter N. Johnson in memory of  
 r son, Ruben Johnson  
 son, Minn., Main Str. Luth. Church, \$125 each for the following (Ja.), (Su.), (Sa.) and  
 )  
 m the Daily Vacation Bible School  
 t, Nebr., First Luth. S. S.  
 n, Wis., Milltown Luth. Church from the Busy Bees  
 lywood, Calif., Valley Luth. Church, L.W.A. \$29.50; (Ja.) \$6.50; Foreign Mission \$1;  
 eign Mission (Sunday School) \$24.71  
 eign Mission \$10.55; L.W.A. S. S. \$36.50 and Church for L.W.A. \$46.25  
 Ore., Bethesda Luth. Church towards Pastor Morck's salary for 1957  
 Nebr., Bethany Church in memory of Mr. Asker Petersen and Mrs. Chris Jensen from  
 and Mrs. Alvin Jensen for Dr. Winther's work in Japan \$10  
 n, Ia., Eben Ezer Luth. Church—General Fund, \$36.65 and L.W.A. \$8  
 ebr., First Luth. Church from Mrs. Dora Nielsen in memory of Mrs. H. J. Hansen \$1;  
 C. M. Christensen \$1  
 Wis., Pella Luth. S. S.  
 Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Nielsen in memory of Mrs.  
 ls Jensen \$2; from Mr. and Mrs. Lennert Hansen, in memory of Mrs. Chris Jensen, \$3  
 Pension Fund  
 m Mr. and Mrs. Phillip E. Andersen in memory of Mrs. Chris Jensen, \$3 for Home Mis-  
 sion; From Mr. and Mrs. Peter Andersen and Marie in memory of Sister and Aunt  
 Mary, \$5 Pension  
 Mich., St. Thomas Luth. Church—General Fund  
 pi, Wis., First Luth. Church from the Sunday School  
 kla., From Mrs. John C. Romer—Pension Fund  
 Nebr., Women's Missionary Soc., Synodical Treas., Offering at the Mission Service of  
 Synod. Convention  
 a, Calif., Thorpe's Beauty and Barber Supply  
 Mich., Northwest Trinity Ev. Luth. 1957, quota paid in full  
 a., Exira Luth. Church, 1957 L.W.A. quota paid in full  
 ebr., The Luther League of U.E.L.C. Mission program in South America 1955-58  
 Minn., Community Luth. Church—General Fund  
 Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Chris Jensen from Mr. and Mrs. Wal-  
 J. Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Nielsen, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nielsen, all of  
 le, Wash., \$15; and \$2 from Mrs. Goldie Nelson for Home Mission  
 ebr., From Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Johnson in memory of Goldie Robertson, Scranton, Ia.  
 memory of Mrs. H. J. Hansen, Blair, Nebr., for Home Mission

141.00	141.00		
5.00		Ja.	5.00
7.72		Sa.	7.72
22.00	22.00		
12.00	12.00		
22.00	22.00		
2.00		Su.	2.00
12.00			12.00
500.00			500.00
63.94		Ja.	63.94
42.00		Ja.	42.00
50.00			50.00
61.71			32.21
98.30			10.55
841.68		So.	841.68
44.65	36.65		8.00
2.00		Ja.	2.00
5.95		Ja.	5.95
5.00	5.00		
8.00	8.00		
150.00	150.00		
26.17		Su.	26.17
15.00	15.00		
712.27		Ja.	712.27
3.24		Ja.	3.24
202.86			202.86
630.00			630.00
2200.00		So.	2200.00
210.00	210.00		
17.00	17.00		
5.00		Ja.	5.00
5.00	5.00		
TOTAL			
75815.46	17256.43	40081.67	18477.36

with thanks.

Blair, Nebraska, July 27, 1957.

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer.

## NEWS AND NOTES

Continued from page 2)

do you want to be released?"  
 like this," said the man, "when  
 the promise I only had to give  
 now its \$500. I can't afford to  
 way money like that."

former pastor looked at his  
 and said, "I'm afraid we can't  
 you from your promise, but  
 something else we can do. We  
 el here and ask God to shrink  
 come so you can afford to give  
 ."

—The Standard

## WASHINGTON OBSERVER

Continued from Page 6)

report, based on medical cer-  
 s, showed that in a seven  
 period, among school girls  
 he age of 16, 190 pregnancies  
 en reported, 178 of them  
 colored, 12 among white.

Insult has been added to injury  
 by reports showing repeated in-  
 stances of vandalism on the part of  
 teen and pre-teen aged children,  
 the special object of their vandalism  
 being school property and this van-  
 dalism being of a highly destructive  
 sort which neither parental persua-  
 sion nor police force has been able  
 to control.

The cause? The commonest ex-  
 planation is that the effort to in-  
 tegrate is responsible, that the pub-  
 lic school system is at present very  
 much demoralized by reason of new  
 conditions confronting it.

The cure? Nobody seems to know  
 the answer other than to suggest  
 that parents wake up and that the  
 policemen watch more closely. We

of the church feel we have the an-  
 swer—more Christian homes, more  
 Christian nurture and training. But  
 what more effective methods are we  
 employing to strengthen the Chris-  
 tian home and to offer better  
 Christian nurture and training?  
 The question is a tough one and  
 Washington needs an answer.

## GUYER AND HANSEN

### LOANS

### INSURANCE — REAL ESTATE

Successor to N. T. Lund Co.

Blair, Nebraska

H. Lyle Guyer

P. V. Hansen





For the father whose family's future comes first

## Lutheran Brotherhood's *Brotherhood Provider*

- "Economy-size" plan which offers at least \$10,000 additional protection for your family

**It's no secret!** Today's high cost of living has greatly increased your family's requirements for adequate protection. To help keep pace with these mounting needs, LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD offers its popular *Brotherhood Provider* — low-cost, \$10,000 minimum protection plan.

The savings possible because of the \$10,000 minimum amount make premiums surprisingly low. And constantly-growing cash values, supplemented by generous dividends, build up fast . . . giving you an immediate source of cash for possible emergencies. *For instance, if you're a man of 30, you can buy the Brotherhood Provider at the rate of about 57¢ a day. In less than sixteen years, the cash values plus accumulated dividends at today's rates will equal the total amount of all the premiums you've paid . . . and your family will have been protected for the full amount of the policy during the entire time!*

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conscientious service to Lutherans  
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701 Second Ave. So., Minneapolis 2, Minn.

Please furnish further information about this low-cost "economy-size" protection plan for my family.

ANL 27

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

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